Rajiv Gandhi, in the near future—here or during his proposed visit to Darjeeling.

Since all the relevant documents about our demand are with you, I need hardly repeat the details about our genuine demands here. I sincerely, hope and believe that you will give your utmost consideration to our genuine demands and take early steps to find a peaceful solution to meet the legitimate aspirations of not only the people of Darjeeling district, and adjoining areas but of all the Gorkhas who have been living in India before Independence and prior to the Indo-Nepal Treaty of 21st July 1950 and are clamouring for their Indian identity in our great and democratic country.

Yours faithfully,

Sd|-

(SUBASH GHISING)

PRESIDENT

GORKHA NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

Camp: New Delhi.

Statehood for Goa

138. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA-

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the agitation in Goa during the second half of December, 1986 on language issue and for granting of Statehood' to this Union Territory;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is the Central Government's reaction to the issues raised by the agita tors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the agitation as from 19-12-1986, 192 incidents were reported, 136 offences were registered and 200 persons were arrested on various charges, including 4 under the National Security Act.

(c) The Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory is competent to enact legislation adopting any one or more of the languages in use in the Union Territory as the language, to be used for all or any of the official purposes of- the Union Territory. The Bill has been passed by the Assembly in this regard recently. As regards conferment of statehood on the Union Territory, the matter will be given due consideration at the appropriate time keeping in view the totality of circumstances and other relevant factors.

Jodhpur detenus

139. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM;

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of innoocent women and children among the Jodhpur detenus;

(b) if so. what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose tor release them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) There are only two women and no children among the undertrials of 'Waging of war case, in Jodhpur Central Jail. The case is pending trial in the Additional Special Court in Jodhpur.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.